

A  
TENTH LETTER  
FROM  
The FARMER,  
TO THE  
FREE and INDEPENDENT ELECTORS of  
the CITY of DUBLIN.

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*This Letter is the last of the Series.*



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DUBLIN:  
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THE TENTH LETTER

FROM

THE LARSEN

TO THE

THE DIRECTORS OF  
THE BRITISH MUSEUM



DUBLIN:  
Printed by George Taylor in Essex Street

Price Two Pence



A TENTH  
LETTER  
FROM  
The FARMER, &c.

My best beloved COUNTRYMEN,

**I** HAVE proved to you, that the Right of electing Members to represent You in Parliament, is, in its Nature of deeper Importance, and in its Consequence of more interesting Concern, than any other Privilege that can belong to Society.

I could further, apparently, demonstrate, that it would be mutually for the Advantage of Those who govern and Those who are governed, of the Tempters and the Tempted, of the Seducers and the Seduced, that no Influence whatever should be admitted by Electors ; but that All should Vote with Freedom, with Impartiality, with Virtue.

FROM whence do Treasons, Rebellions, Seditious, Contempt of Law, Opposition to Magistracy, and all the Distractions that can rend Society, arise ? even from the Vices, Depravities, and Corruptions of the People.

IF these Things are not so, it would be curious to see a Treatise of the contrary System, (compiled perhaps by a *Cork Surgeon*, or some other of the many *Mountebanks*, who daily mix *Powder of Post* and *Poison* for our Political Constitution) wherein it should be clearly argued, and most ingeniously evinced, *that Slavery derives the Rancour and Extent of its Chain from the Popular Sense and Assertion of Liberty ; that National Vices take their Origin from the Virtue of Individuals ; and that the detestable Wretch, whose Integrity is Proof to all the Shocks of Power and Allurements of Wealth, is an Enemy to good Government, and a factious Pest to his Country.*

HAD we been the unhappy Members of an arbitrary Jurisdiction, where Obedience was measured by Power, and Will established for Law : To advance, or even confess a Sense of National or Natural Freedom, would be Treason to such Government, a direct Assault upon the State.

BUT



BUT, blessed be our God ! and those our generous Forefathers, whose Providence we will adore, and whose Institutions we will hold fast ; Who have founded and cemented our incomparable Establishment, in the Deepness of Council, and in the Effusion of Blood ; This our Estate is not of Obedience to *Lawless Power*, but *commissioned Authority* ; it is not subjected to *private Will*, but directed by *public Reason*.

HE therefore, among us, who builds his Allegiance, on the Foundation of *Liberty*, of *Integrity*, of *Virtue* ; is alone the *Kindred Part* of such a *glorious Connection*, the *true Member* of his Country, the *firm Abettor* of his KING, whose Power is erected on those very *Principles* : While he who would debauch, divert, or terrify, a single Man from his *Freedom*, or the Dictates of his *Conscience*, is so far an Underminer of our *thrice blessed Constitution*, an Alien to *his Country*, and a Traitor to *his Sovereign*.

IF GEORGE the SECOND is to be supported by a base and corrupt People, by whom are the TYRANTS of the Earth to be upheld ?

IF Kings, whose distinguished and pre-eminent Throne is *pillar'd* by the *Liberties* and *Consent* of their Subjects, should yet attempt to sap that *Foundation of Virtue*, whereon the *Pillars* of *Liberty* and *Consent* are laid ; What new *Props* shall be put to sustain their Dominion, that can differ from the Supporters of those absolute Seigniories ? Where *Empire* is at Strife with the Weal of the People, and Authority and Magistracy are the Woe of the Land.

WHEN

WHEN Ministers would insinuate to the Princes of such a Constitution, that they have an Interest distinct from that of their Subjects ; that therefore an Opposition is necessary to uphold Prerogative ; and that Bribery will engage Abettors, and Corruption win Loyalists, to the Advancement of Power and Elevation of the Throne ; It is by no Means the Interests of their royal and deluded Masters, that such perfidious Architects, intend to erect ; it is to attain Dominion to their own peculiar Party ; that by severing the Hearts of beloved Monarchs from their Subjects, and transferring the royal Confidence to their own Cabal, in wielding the Scepter of their Princes, they might also rule the People ; for it hath ever been the *Maxim* of the Devil and his *Machiavels*, to govern by Division, and derive Power to themselves from the Weakness of others. But a free and loyal Nation would counterwork such pernicious Measures, as well in Love to their SOVEREIGN, as in Providence to their selves.

WHEN I advise you to such, or such Representatives, I direct you to no Man of any Faction whatever, *Constitutional* and *Anticonstitutional*, is your Mark ; he is not to be of *Paul* or *Cephas*, of this Party or of that, but of the Protestant Church of CHRIST and the royal House of HANOVER ; such, as no Opposition shall stagger, no Influence divert, from the joint Interests of our CONSTITUTION, our COUNTRY, and our KING.

CONSIDER, my dear Friends, that you are not a *bidden People*, you are not neither placed in a *dark Lamborn*, nor put under a *Busbel*. You are the *Metro-polis* of a great Nation, a Light set upon our highest Hill, to illustrate your whole Country by the bright Shining of your Example. You are the Source of Vice or Virtue, of Servility or Freedom, to all the other

other inferior and remote Corporations. You cannot but be distinguished, for *Infamy*, or for *Honour*. You, then, who are for our *Constitution*; for our *Country*, for our *KING*, rank in with your *Loyalists*, adhere to your *Patriots*! So shall that *Country* repose in Peace upon your Bosom, the *KING* of our *Constitution* shall know his *Confidence* in time of Need, and his Descendants shall cleave to the Interest of your Posterity.

So may I prosper here, and be blessed hereafter, as I am honest, and true, and confident, in averring, that our Religion and our Liberties, our Constitution, and the House of our ROYAL AND GRACIOUS MASTER, can no way be secured, can no way be preserved, but by the *Public Virtue*, and *public Spirit of the People*.

It is a Spirit that I trust will ever rise superior, to the Overbearings of Influence, and Discountenance of the Great: As I trust it will also roll with Freedom and with Order, within its natural Channels of Reason and of Truth.

WHATEVER our Adversaries may have impudently affirmed, of the universal Depravity of a neighbouring Nation; when, in order to recommend *Wickedness* and *Corruption* to your Favour, they tell you that *Patriotism* is *Hypocrisy*, and *public Spirit* a *Farce*: Even London, the Metropolis of the Country from whence we come, is pregnant with many shining and recent Examples, to Us her beloved Descendants, and her Sister City of *Dublin*.

LONDON is not barely jealous of her own Rights and proper Privileges; She is jealous even of

of the Honour of any Man who claims her Trust.

ONE of her *Aldermen*, Sir G—— C—— the very *Alderman* next the Chair, was suspected of receiving a Bribe, to give his Vote in Parliament, not wholly agreeable to the Interests of his Country. What ensued? Though by the usual and regular Rotation, it was his turn to be advanced to the Dignity of Lord Mayor; not all the Intercession and Authority of the Great, the Solicitation of Friendship, and Influence of Office, could procure him that Honour to which his Innocence had entitled him. He stood stigmatized with the Imputation of a vile and corrupt Action; and the Loyal, the Firm, the virtuous Citizens of *London* annually opposed and rejected his Suit with Disdain; and he remains to this Day an Instance of their Worth, and their Resentment.

LET me add to the Distinction and Virtue of that FREE PEOPLE, that they solicited and in a Manner compelled into Parliament, that unblemished and eminent Patriot, Sir JOHN BARNARD, at a time that he industriously declined the Honour they offered him, and by a Letter to their Chairman, read in publick Assembly, apologized for his Incapacity of discharging so great a Trust, on Account of his Infirmities and want of Health.

SUCH Honour and Estimation do that great and gallant People appoint to the Claims of Service, and even the Silence of Merit; insomuch that it is observable that the Representatives of that trading City, generally stand forth distinguished in the Parliamentary Rank, of the most loyal Patriots, and the most able Speakers.

I SHALL



I SHALL mention one Instance more, that may be applicable to your present Case, an Instance, which the *British Annals* will be careful to convey to your Posterity. It is taken from the late Conduct of the independent Electors of *Westminster*; and I have my Information from some Gentlemen with whom I was intimate in *London*, and who were the leading Spirits on that memorable Occasion.

WESTMINSTER, for many Years, had been called the *Ministerial Borough*. It was looked upon as a *Votary*, a very *Property to Influence*. The Candidates were generally appointed without Trouble, or Expence of Festivals; and were frequently elected without the Shew of Opposition.

THE Inhabitants had long been the Acquaintance of *Courtiers*; their City was the Residence and Home of *Dependents*, of *patient Waiters* for Employment, and *bumble Suitors* for Place: Among whom are many Wretches, who would be the First to betray their Patrons, and the last to shed a single Drop of Blood, in Defence of the ROYAL SOVEREIGN by whom their Life is sustained.

ON this remarkable Election, Lord ———, and Sir *Charles Wager*, the two late Members, were again appointed Candidates; and no Obstruction was expected, no Opposition appeared,

LORD ———, to say the Truth, was a Man somewhat suspected, of bending to each Turn, and

veering with Occasions to make him for or against Party, or Country, or King, it was sufficient to shew him the Banner where his Interest was ranged. Sir *Charles* was a Man of well-merited Estimation, who was an honest-hearted *Briton*, and a gallant Sea-Officer, had done Honour to his ROYAL COMMISSIONER, and true Service to his COUNTRY. But, at this Period of Time, he was so far in the Decline of Life, and Capacity, that he wanted rather a Couch for Slumber, than the watchful Seat in Parliament; a Nurse-keeping for himself, and not the Guardianship of a Nation.

SOME few Days before that of Election, a small Company of active and independent Men assembled, but without any Prospect, as it was then imagined, of making the least Opposition. When One, more sanguine than the Rest, proposed to draw up an Advertisement to be inserted in the public Papers, requesting a Meeting of the free Electors, in order to consider of two proper Candidates to represent them in Parliament.

THIS was accordingly done; and at the appointed Meeting, Curiosity drew together about four-score Persons. *Charles Edwin*, Esq; a Gentleman of a large Fortune in *Wales*, dropt in by mere Accident, and, being a free Inhabitant of *Westminster*, and a Person of Consequence, the Company joined to pay him the Compliment of the Chair.

ADMIRAL *Vernon*, at that time in the *West Indies*, was then proposed, and unanimously admitted a Candidate; and after some time a further Motion was

was made, and the Company agreed in requesting Mr. *Edwin* to be their second Candidate; universally engaging that each Man then present should exert his utmost Interest to promote his Election. After some real Reluctance on the Part of Mr. *Edwin*, he was at length prevailed on to accept the Honour they offered him; and Matters being thus fixed, they parted for the Purpose,

ON the first Day of Election, in casting up of the Books, the Ministerial Members were found to be seven hundred a head; and this confirmed the Public in their former Opinion, of the Absurdity and Weakness of an Attempt at Opposition.

BUT the few active Spirits, who had engaged in this Enterprize, were not to be lightly or suddenly dismayed; They were Strangers to Rest at this important Juncture; They spread themselves throughout the City and Liberties of *Westminster*; They displayed their white Flag, for *Vernon, Edwin* and LIBERTY! and many Freemen came together, and ranged under that Banner.

It should here be observed, that these two Candidates were known to be old and *staunch Whigs*, whose Families had been active in the *glorious Revolution*, and were at all times distinguished for their Firmness and Loyalty to the royal *House of Hanover*, and to the *present happy Establishment*.

THIS Election began on *Monday*; and notwithstanding that Days Disparity, by the *Thursday* following the Independents were drawing near to an Equality upon the Poll-Books. The Dependents were greatly alarmed at this; they found that they had already spent their best Fire; they had Intelligence that the Numbers and Powers of their Opponents daily encreased; a Council was called hereon; they determined at all Adventures to secure their Majority; this was agreed to be done in the *sure old Way*; the High-Bayliff had a Sign appointed to him for *closing the Books*; to this he objected his personal Danger, and that such an illegal and arbitrary Step might irritate the People; to quiet the Fears of the High-Bayliff, three Justices of the Peace and the Army were to be introduced, and Affairs being thus premeditated and settled, on *Friday* the Concerters with all their Instruments gave due Attendance.

As the Place of Election was at the front Steps of *Covent-garden Church*, the Guards were conveyed into the Church-yard the back Way from *Bedford-street*, with all possible Privacy.

At the appointed Hour on *Friday*, much Time was purposely wasted in the Parade of Business, and a few Persons indifferently polled on both Sides, Till the Dependents took the Alarm, on the Appearance of the white Flag at the Head of upward of two hundred independent Voters marching up in Order through the loud Huzzas of the People.

THEY



THEY instantly seized the Occasion ; a Riot ! a Riot ! they cried out, shut the Books ! immediately the Books were shut ; all was Amazement, all Confusion ; and the Dependents retired to the Vestry.

IN some time after the trembling High Bayliff came forth, and with Hesitation declared Lord ——— and Sir *Charles Wager* duly elected. Upon this the Guards turned out in their Defence ; the Populace were exasperated, and threatened an Assault : But then it was, that those VERY SPIRITS, whose Virtue had informed, and whose Action had animated this People, to *the Assertion of their prime Privilege, the Essence of all their Liberties, the Fountain of all their Rights, even the great and happy Freedom of an independent Election ;* those VERY SPIRITS, I say, then knew their *due Limits, the Line of Law and good Government,* which VIRTUE and LIBERTY will never attempt to pass ; They flew among the enraged Citizens, they commanded, they entreated ; their Power carried Peace, and their Oratory Persuasion ; the high wrought Passions of the Multitude subsided before them, and each retired patient, though murmuring, to his peaceful Home.

THIS remarkable Transaction, and Attempt on the Constitution, at once fired and collected all the Patriots of Fortune and Consequence throughout the Kingdom.

A Pe-

A Petition thereon was speedily preferred to the House of Commons, signed with the Names of upward of eight thousand free Electors. After a full Hearing the Election was declared by Parliament to be void, the high Bayliff was sent to Newgate ; and the three famous Justices were brought on their Knees to the Bar of that Honourable House, where they received a severe Reprimand for their high and heinous Offence. A new Writ was issued for a fresh Election, Lord *Percival*, now Earl of *Egmont*, was joined with Mr. *Edwin*, in the Room of Admiral *Vernon* who had been chosen for *Ipswich*, and they were accordingly elected without Opposition.

If *Fables* often carry their Moral along with them : Can *Facts*, so nearly relative, so eminent, and interesting, require any further Inference, or Application to the Point ?

Though You judiciously decline to make any Parade, by Displaying the *Standard* or *white Flag* of your LIBERTIES ; the *great* and *indefeasible Patent thereof* is written in the Heart of every FREE CITIZEN, which he will not suffer to be blotted by the Baseness of Influence, or erased by the encroaching Hand of Power.

ON your Left stands the *Colossus* of *Aldermanic* Authority, bestriding your Trade, and trampling on your Possessions ; his Stature conceals a Host of *Jobs*, *Briberies*, *Corruptions* ; while *Poverty*, *Slavery* and *Misery*, lye skulking in the Rear.

ON your right Hand, stands LIBERTY, in Appearance unportioned and rudely apparelled, yet of heavenly Origin, and of Features Divine! She is supported on each Side by *Virtue* and *Reason*, *Honour* and *Affluence* come close behind, her Train is composed of the busy *Crafts*, ingenious *Arts*, and polished *Sciences*; *Candour*, *Humanity* and *Cbearfulness*, smile throughout the acquainted Ranks; and HAPPINESS closes the accomplished Rear.

Who can hesitate a Moment on which Side to arrange?

F I N I S.

(42)

On your right hand, lands already  
granted and surveyed and partly granted, and  
partly reserved, and of James Dwyer and a  
portion of each State of Texas and Texas  
County and James come close behind, and again  
is composed of the City of Texas, Indian  
and public lands; Texas, Texas, and  
County, which through the Indian lands,  
and Texas is close the second of Texas.

6 DE 58

6 DE 38

25